

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Mohammed N. Islam, et al
Serial No.: 09/719,591
Filing Date: June 16, 1999
Group Art Unit: 3663
Examiner: Nelson Moskowitz
Confirmation No.: 2624
Title: Fiber-Optic Compensation for Dispersion, Gain
Tilt, and Band Pump Nonlinearity

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

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GROUP 3600

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Official Action mailed April 8, 2004, solely for the purpose of advancing prosecution of this case and without addressing the veracity of Examiner's election requirement, Applicants hereby elect to prosecute Group I (Claims 1-31, 44-48, and 50). Group II (Claims 32-43 and 49) is withdrawn from the above-identified patent application without prejudice or disclaimer. This election is made solely to expedite issuance of a patent from this Application. Applicants do not necessarily agree with or acquiesce to the Examiner's conclusion reflected in the Office Action.